

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:542
ANSWERED ON:06.02.2017
Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat Scheme
Ram Mohan Naidu Shri Kinjarapu

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has conducted an assessment of the success of the Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat Scheme and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of achievements of the programme since its inception;
- (c) the challenges faced in the implementation of the programme on the ground and details thereof;
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to tackle these challenges; and
- (e) the details of the funds allocated and utilised for the implementation of this programme since its inception, State/UT-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)

- (a) & (b): 'Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat' (PBBB) is a sub-programme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) which is a centrally sponsored scheme implemented to support the States/UTs for universalization of elementary education across the country. It was launched in August, 2014 to ensure quality at the foundational years of schooling. The objectives of the programme are to promote early reading and writing with comprehension skills in children, and also basic numeracy skills. All Government and Government aided primary schools across India are targeted under PBBB. No outcome survey has been conducted to assess the impact of PBBB separately. However, National Achievement Surveys are being carried out over the years by National Council for Educational Research and Training to assess learning achievement of children in classes – III, V, VIII, and X. Four rounds of National Achievement Survey (NAS) have been conducted so far for grade V and three rounds for grade III & VIII. These reveal improvement in learning achievement levels of pupils, in identified subjects from first round to fourth round. From 2016-17 onwards first time 10% allocation has been earmarked for quality related initiatives particularly PBBB. This is having a positive impact and States and UTs are now focusing more on learning outcomes, and this can be seen through the various best practices, case studies and so on uploaded by States and UTs on the Repository of the SSA Shagun portal, launched in January 2017.
- (c) & (d): The Central Government has taken various steps towards addressing the challenges faced in the implementation of the scheme of PBBB, which inter-alia, include preparation of special bridge materials for States having a high tribal population; release of funds approved for the activities including provisioning of free textbooks, development and procurement of supplementary reading material; inservice teacher training; having dedicated teachers for foundational classes and maintaining the required Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR) as prescribed under the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009.
- (e): PBBB is a sub-programme of SSA which is meant for classes I & II focusing on Early Grade Learning. The expenditure for this programme is inbuilt in the broader components of Textbooks, teacher training, LEP, SLAS, Teacher Grant etc for Elementary Classes. Hence, no separate expenditure details maintained for classes I & II. The details of the funds allocated for the implementation of this programme since its inception are at Annexure.
